

Recovery Plan Action Status

Plan Name: Short-Tailed Albatross (*Phoebastria albatrus*) Final Recovery Plan

Plan Status: Final

Plan Date: 20-May-09

Lead Agency: USFWS

Lead Office: Anchorage Fish And Wildlife Field Office

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271-2888)**

Species	Action Priority #	Action #	Action Description	Action Status	Est. Initiation Date	Est. Completion Date	Responsible Parties	Work Type	Labor Type	Action Comments
Short-tailed albatross (<i>Phoebastria</i> (=Diomedea) albatrus)	1	1.1	Continue annual monitoring of Tsubamezaki and Hatsune-zaki on Torishima (active pairs, eggs, fledglings)	Ongoing Current	FY 2008		Toho University, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Management: Population Monitoring	Species Expert	Conducted annually by Japanese researchers
Short-tailed albatross (<i>Phoebastria</i> (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	1.2.2	Torishima erosion control; maintain existing gabions above at Tsubamezaki colony and remove sediment from central drainage through Tsubamezaki slope	Ongoing Current	FY 2000 - FY 2004		Others, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Management: Habitat Maintenance and Manipulation	Species Expert	Conducted periodically by Japanese partners
Short-tailed albatross (<i>Phoebastria</i> (=Diomedea) albatrus)	1	1.3	Conduct decoy & sound system maintenance at Mukojima colony	Ongoing Current	FY 2008		Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Management: Population Monitoring	Labor type not yet selected	Annually by YIO
Short-tailed albatross (<i>Phoebastria</i> (=Diomedea) albatrus)	3	1.4.1	Develop and deploy abrasion-resistant leg band (titanium, Darvic) to replace incoloy	Not Started			To be determined	Research: Other Information	Labor type not yet selected	2-year development; deployment ongoing
Short-tailed albatross (<i>Phoebastria</i> (=Diomedea) albatrus)	3	1.4.2	Develop and deploy diamond-like coating for color bands for obtaining demographic information	Not Started			Toho University	Research: Other Information	Labor type not yet selected	1-year development; deployment ongoing
Short-tailed albatross (<i>Phoebastria</i> (=Diomedea) albatrus)	3	1.4.3	Resume color banding of chicks on Torishima	Not Started			Toho University, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Research: Demographic Studies	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (<i>Phoebastria</i> (=Diomedea) albatrus)	1	2	Monitor Senkaku population	Not Started			To be determined	Management: Population Monitoring	Labor type not yet selected	Access barriers to be overcome

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Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	1	3.1.1	Conduct Torishima telemetry work; breeders during breeding season	Ongoing Current	FY 2009		Oregon State University, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, University of Massachusetts, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Research: Habitat Requirements	Labor type not yet selected	USFWS + YIO partners
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	3.1.2	Conduct Torishima telemetry work; fledglings, sub-adults, post-breeders	Ongoing Current	FY 2000 - FY 2004		Oregon State University, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, University of Massachusetts, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Research: Habitat Requirements	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	3.1.3	Conduct telemetry work on Mukojima fledglings and Toroshima fledglings	Ongoing Current	FY 2008	FY 2012	Oregon State University, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, University of Massachusetts, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Management: Identify/Protect Foraging, Breeding and Mig Habitats, Management: International Cooperation, Management: Monitor and Estimate Bycatch	Contract	Last transmitter deployment May 2012; satellite tracking data collection will continue as long as the transmitters last, up to three years for Torishima fledglings with harness deployment.
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	3.2.1	Conduct at-sea telemetry on birds captured in the Aleutian islands soon after the breeding season	Complete	FY 2008	FY 2008	Oregon State University, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Research: Habitat Requirements	Labor type not yet selected	Completed. Total cost was \$300,000
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	3.2.2	Evaluate/deploy archival tags (involves recapture)	Not Started			Oregon State University, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Research: Habitat Requirements	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	3.2.2	Conduct research on albatross hotspots at sea.	Partially Complete	FY 2009		Oregon State University, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Research: Habitat Requirements	Labor type not yet selected	

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Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	3.3.1	Conduct PTT attachment evaluation (harness types, glue, tape)	Complete	FY 2008	FY 2008	Oregon State University, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Management: Population Monitoring, Management: Reduce Bycatch	Contract, Species Expert	Harnesses are deployed on half the fledglings monitored on Torishima (4 in each year from 2008-2012 (anticipated) for a total of 16 harnessed birds. These tags can send signals for up to 3 years, as compared with about 6 months for the tesa tape attachment, which is applied to the other half of the Torishima and all of the Mukojima tagged birds.
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	3	3.4	Develop clear goal statement of telemetry work	Not Started			Oregon State University, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Management: Planning	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	3.5	Determine at-sea distribution; get assistance from an NGO to organize international data collection from ships of opportunity	Ongoing Current	FY 2008		U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, To be determined	Research: Migration	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	1	4.1	Conduct feasibility study of other potential colony re-establishment sites	Complete	FY 2007	FY 2008	Institute for Boninology, Toho University, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Management: Reintroduction	Labor type not yet selected	Completed
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	1	4.2	Prepare selected new translocation colony site (including arranging access, governmental permits, local outreach, building construction)	Complete	FY 2007	FY 2007	Institute for Boninology, Toho University, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Management: Reintroduction	Labor type not yet selected	Completed
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	1	4.3	Conduct passive attraction of birds to Mukojima using decoys and recorded colony sounds following annual translocation effort	Ongoing Current	FY 2008		Institute for Boninology, Toho University, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Management: Reintroduction	Labor type not yet selected	Note: Action duration - 1 year/ongoing

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Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	1	4.4	Conduct surrogate species translocation study (best age for translocation, hand rearing at colony site devoid of adults)	Complete	FY 2007	FY 2007	Institute for Boninology, Toho University, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Management: Reintroduction	Labor type not yet selected	Completed
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	1	4.5.1	Translocation of post-guard chicks from Torishima to new island colony site	Ongoing Current	FY 2008		Institute for Boninology, Toho University, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Management: Reintroduction	Labor type not yet selected	Note: Action duration - may take more than 5 years; Year 1 is completed
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	4.5.2	Translocation of fledglings from Tsubame-zaki to Hatsune-zaki colony on Torishima	Obsolete			To be determined	Management: Reintroduction	Labor type not yet selected	Not currently a priority task
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	1	4.6	Monitor and maintain Mukojima site	Ongoing Current	FY 2008		Institute for Boninology, Toho University, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Management: Reintroduction	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	5.1	Conduct fisheries related bycatch reduction research; integrated weight line research	Complete	FY 2008	FY 2008	Washington Sea Grant Program	Research: Bycatch Reduction	Labor type not yet selected	Completed
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	5.2	Conduct fisheries related bycatch reduction research; trawl gear interaction rate study	Partially Complete	Prior to FY 1995	FY 2008	National Marine Fisheries Service , Washington Sea Grant Program	Research: Bycatch Reduction	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	5.3	Conduct fisheries related bycatch reduction research; trawl gear interaction minimization study	Ongoing Current	FY 2000 - FY 2004		National Marine Fisheries Service , Washington Sea Grant Program	Research: Bycatch Reduction	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	5.4	Conduct fisheries related bycatch reduction research; pelagic longline gear interaction minimization study	Partially Complete	FY 2007		National Marine Fisheries Service , Washington Sea Grant Program	Research: Bycatch Reduction	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	5.5	Conduct fisheries related bycatch reduction research; refine US and foreign mitigation measures in fisheries	Partially Complete	FY 2000 - FY 2004		National Marine Fisheries Service , World Wildlife Fund, Washington Sea Grant Program	Management: Reduce Bycatch	Labor type not yet selected	Sent fisheries experts to Russia in cooperation with WWF

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Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	5.5.1	Examine fisheries-albatross range overlap including Japanese, Russian, Korean, Taiwanese, US, Canadian, Chinese fisheries	Partially Complete	FY 2000 - FY 2004		To be determined	Research: Bycatch Reduction	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	5.5.4	Develop GIS showing albatross range based on sightings from vessels of opportunity	Ongoing Current	FY 2000 - FY 2004		To be determined	Research: Bycatch Reduction	Labor type not yet selected	New NMFS database will facilitate data collection and information transfer.
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	1	6.1	Conduct genetic analyses to detect differences between Torishima and Senkaku STAL	Not Started			To be determined	Research: Taxonomic Studies	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	6.2	Initiate formal study to collect and analyze food habits of STAL	Not Started			Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Research: Dietary Studies	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	6.3.1	Conduct contaminants analysis on addled eggs, feathers, and dead chicks	Not Started			To be determined	Research: Environmental Contaminants	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	6.3.2	Add short-tailed component to the study of BFAL contaminants load and foraging relative to reproductive success (Hg, other metals, POPs)	Not Started			To be determined	Research: Environmental Contaminants	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	3	6.3.3	Overlay STAL distribution with oil tanker routes, high potential oil exploration areas and relay information to appropriate entities	Not Started			To be determined	Research: Habitat Status	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	3	6.3.4	Develop oil spill contingency plans/conduct outreach for high-risk areas	Not Started			U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Coast Guard , Canadian Coast Guard, Japan Coast Guard	Management: Planning	Labor type not yet selected	

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Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	3	6.3.5.1	Compare eggshell thickness of new & museum STAL eggs	Not Started			To be determined	Research: Environmental Contaminants	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	3	6.3.5.2	Compare mercury concentrations between historic and recently collected STAL feathers	Not Started			To be determined	Research: Environmental Contaminants	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	6.3.6	Investigate incidence and effects of plastics ingested by short-tailed albatross	Not Started			To be determined	Research: Environmental Contaminants	Labor type not yet selected	Note: Costs are TBD
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	7.1	Invite and encourage participation of Japanese Ministry of Fisheries at START meetings	Ongoing Current	FY 2008		U.S. Department of State	Management: Reduce Bycatch	Labor type not yet selected	Note: action duration is 1 year/ongoing
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	3	7.2	Overlay short-tailed albatross distribution with areas being considered or developed for offshore development (wind farms, tidal energy, fish farming).	Not Started			To be determined	Research: Habitat Status	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	7.3	Complete short-tailed albatross recovery plan; update every 5 years	Complete	FY 2008	FY 2008	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Management: Planning	Labor type not yet selected	Completed Final RP; 5-year review completed FY09. Recovery Plan update scheduled for 2013.
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	7.4	Hold recovery team meetings periodically	Ongoing Current	FY 2000 - FY 2004		U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Management: Planning	Labor type not yet selected	Most recent meeting:2008
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	8.1	Organize seabird bycatch reduction outreach/workshops for other countries fishing in North Pacific	Ongoing Current	FY 2000 - FY 2004		U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Management: Reduce Bycatch	Labor type not yet selected	

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Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	8.2	Maintain list of formal international outreach opportunities to foster international cooperation in implementing state-of-the-art seabird bycatch reduction methods & conduct outreach	Not Started			To be determined	Management: Reduce Bycatch	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	8.3	Create outreach material for international meetings	Not Started			U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Management: Reduce Bycatch	Labor type not yet selected	Note: Action duration is periodic
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	8.4	Translate important documents into Japanese, English	Ongoing Current	FY 2006		To be determined	Management: International Cooperation	Contract	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	8.6	Pursue additional support from Japanese government (through bilateral migratory bird treaty or other means)	Ongoing Current	FY 2008		U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, To be determined	Management: International Cooperation	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	9.1	Develop/refine Population Viability Analysis	Complete	FY 2008	FY 2008	University of Massachusetts	Research: Demographic Studies	Labor type not yet selected	Completed
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	3	9.2	Develop protocol for necropsy/carcass processing	Partially Complete	Prior to FY 1995		U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Management: Planning	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	2	9.3	Develop protocols for field handling	Ongoing Current	FY 2008		Oregon State University, University of Massachusetts, Yamishina Institute for Ornithology	Management: Planning	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	3	9.4	Develop protocol for contaminants sampling	Partially Complete	FY 2006		U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Management: Planning	Labor type not yet selected	

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Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	3	9.5	Develop protocol for research methodologies (e.g. plastics sampling at colony site)	Not Started			To be determined	Management: Planning	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	3	9.6	Prepare protocols for population monitoring data collection (1st breeding age, % adults breeding, baseline pop info, behavior)	Not Started			To be determined	Management: Planning	Labor type not yet selected	
Short-tailed albatross (Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus)	3	9.7	Develop and make available protocols for all aspects of short-tailed albatross work	Not Started			To be determined	Management: Planning	Labor type not yet selected	